



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Mayor honors six seniors

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – Six seniors from Riverside won awards for their community work from the Mayor's Commission on Aging recently.

The annual awards are given every year for "active community involvement and significant contributions to the quality of life in the City of Riverside."

The 2008 Senior Citizen Award winners are:

Carolyn Grant – After serving on the Riverside Land Conservancy and the Charter Review Commissions, she found time to aid the Mission Inn Foundation's docent program and to assist with the annual Dickens Festival.

Mable Harris -- The only centenarian to win, she has been helping others for most of her lifetime. In her 24-year residency at the Mount Rubidoux Manor, a downtown senior retirement home, she has continued that tradition and is even caring for two vegetable plots at the Dales Senior Center, 3936 Chestnut St.

Harry Hood -- He serves on more committees than a member of Congress: the Citizen's Advisory Committee to the Chief of Police, the Inland Congregations United for Change, the Riverside Interfaith Fellowship, the Youth Strategic Planning Committee, the Riverside Urban League and the Riverside Chapter of the AARP, just to name a few.

Vivian Stancil – Though she lost her sight at age 19, she overcame her fear of water and became a champion swimmer in the 100-meter free style, the 50-meter free style and the 50-meter backstroke. She's a gold medalist in swimming events of the local Senior Olympics and is a contender in the national games.

Xavier Zamora – He has worked 42 years in the Riverside Unified School District, including 27 years as an assistant to the principal at Arlington High School. Today, he volunteers to help at Villegas Park as a member of the park advisory team, setting up special events for members of the community.

The winner of the Mayor's Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree was:

Mildred Tyler – She is a founding life member and former president of the Riverside Chapter of the National Council of Negro Women. She has served on the Community Advisory Board

of the Riverside Junior League; the Riverside County Fair Housing Council, the African-American Historical Society, the City Personnel Board's Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Planning Committee of the Inland Counties Health System Agency. She has served on the Mayor's Commission on Aging, both as commissioner and chairperson.

"The stories about our senior honorees shared at the Senior Citizen Award Ceremony are at the heart of social capital," said Mayor Ronald O. Loveridge. "As a community, we recognize and celebrate their contributions to improving the quality of life here."

The awards were given in a ceremony at City Hall, Oct. 7.



Mildred Tyler, winner of the Mayor's Lifetime Achievement Award Honoree Award.

Photo by Brenda Flowers.

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